Seems Not Clearly **Understood by Public**

Criticism of State Dept. For Allowing Reds to Visit U. S. Is Case in Point

By David Lawrence of the three Every now and then the reservices than action of the public to some in- his predecessor, cident shows conclusively that, James V. Forwhile freedom of speech and as- restal, did. sembly is a cherished right in although out of America, it is not clearly under-the stood. ment since

The episode of the "Cultural 1940, has kept and Scientific Conference for in contact with

group to attend the meeting, many on a volcano which may erupt at Americans have not yet accepted almost any time. He is equally the famous definition uttered by aware of the weaknesses in our dom for the thought we hate."

the Russians to this country, but session, the Secretary has suffia mistake. The department de-them-to complete Mr. Forrestal's clined to admit delegates from work of merging the services. In spite of criticism directed at countries, and this, too, has been will do so. allowed to participate.

Russian group, who planned to security. make a speaking tour of America. are not to be allowed to make such a trip.

What consistency, if any, is there in the curious twistings and turnings?

The truth is that the American Government has never adopted a clear-cut policy on what ought to be a simple matter to resolve.

Fear of Fifth Column. has been the pride of America and victory.

The American Communists and of manpower can be won only by lems. the British, French and Italian followers of the party line have convinced their fellow citizens Barring Reds' Tour that the arguments made are not those of a particular philosophy but are in reality words directed by another government very much as the fifth column operated be-

fore and during World War II.

The fact that European Communists have publicly stated that, in case of war, they would not fight to defend their own counties that the defend their own counties that the strict letter of the law on its side in case of war, they would not fight to defend their own counties the so-called Cultural and Scitries but would give aid and com- tural and Scifort to enemy troops has made entific Conferit difficult for the average man to ence for World distinguish between a truly dis- Peace in New interested public meeting, at York from which views at variance with making a propopular thought are expressed jected town and palpable efforts to do the across our bidding of a foreign government. country.

Under such circumstances, the State Department officials are in doubt about a quandary. They hesitate to that. They take the chances they normally came here as would in opening doors and meeting halls and tours to Communist from speakers from abroad. slavia and Thomas L. Stokes.

The problem will not be ad-Czechoslovakia with visas only for and hospitable, would raise far justed until Russia and the United New York City and the conferless ruckus than some in New York States come to some agreement ence there last week end. It was did. on the entry of speakers, writers only because they were official and delegates to unofficial con-visitors that they were admitted ferences held by citizens of either at all That's the only way Comcountry.

Reciprocal Rights.

If the American Government specified locale for a specific pur- sians, take a good look at our were deny entry to any person pose. from any countries behind the It may be recalled that this perous and free people and get rid procedure was adopted a couple of lots of notions they read in leges were given to Americans, the of years ago in the case, first, of their newspapers and hear over question of what was being writ- a French Communist newspaper- their radios. It would be a fine ten or spoken by such visitors on man who came to this country to opportunity for us to do some either side would be easier to cover the United Nations sessions proselyting and merely by giving There would be more in New York. The Justice De-them a look. zeal in defending the right of partment found a World War I It might help our own people to anybody to express himself in statute still on the books. free America. Certainly ideas of our own "iron curtain" which are not to be feared if they are exposed to the fresh air of debate was lowered just a bit this side of their mouths, but are people just and the counter-dissemination of the Statue of Liberty. other ideas.

speech but the reciprocal exercise of rights by citizens of America ground. It should perhaps get growing wider and wider every day and Russia. The Soviets do not some credit, in the first place, for between peoples of the world. admit many American correspondents. Only a handful are perents. Only a handful are perents. ents. Only a handful are permitted in Russia. The United States would be justified in limiting the number of Russians who wish entry into the United States. The other day Gen. Lucius D.

Clay permitted a Russian and writers at pleace and it is high time they let their political masters everywhere know that. To do that effectively, people must have contact with each other. As it is, we are shuttonth of the property of the eye-for-an-eye, tooth-for-ating ourselves behind barriers, betooth case was put by a couple bind "iron curtain."

Clay permitted a Russian corre-spondent to enter the American zone. This was the first instance of its kind since the Berlin blockade began. The Russian said he would ask his government to permit American correspondents to enter the Soviet zone. It is a good sign. Communist visitors about the state of the soviet zone. It is a good sign. Communist visitors about the bearded lady or the thin man beginning and it is to be hoped sian Communist visitors should or those daring souls who climb up America's initiative will be met by Russian reciprocity.

Here is a subject far more im- States. portant than that which was discussed at the meeting of the Cul- pose. tural and Scientific Conference for World Peace. There can be no assurance of world peace as long as there is an Iron Curtain to block the entry of correspondents. It wouldn't require any conventions or visiting delegations to assure America that Russia does not plan war if American correspondents could travel in large numbers throughout Russia, talk with the Russian people and send uncensored reports back to America.

Freedom of the press is more important internationally as a means of preventing war than all the devices ever suggested to turn the public opinion of any country away from the fear of war and toward a stable peace.

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Freedom of Speech This Changing World

Johnson Expected to Put More Teeth In Service Merger Than Forrestal Did

Louis A. Johnson, the new Secretary of Defense, is regarded by his subordinates in the armed dustrial centers but also his syshis subordinates in the armed tem of communications. services as a "tough man," who The Navy, which is quickly beis expected to put more teeth into the merger

Govern-

Tug-of-War Inevitable.

By Thomas L. Stokes

Russia, Poland, Yugo-

Legally on Firm Ground.

coming the stepchild of the services and stands the brunt of the attack from the Army and Air Force, is convinced that at this stage of the game it is performing a vital role through submarines and carrier-based aviation.

These various concepts have their own advocates in the Joint Chiefs of Staff. But it is up to the Secretary of Defense to decide in the last instance not what the strategy should be but how the money asked of Congress is dis-World Peace" is a case in point. a n d international situation Constantine Brown.

That partitioning of funds actually dictates strategy, for withparticularly the criticism visited and with the state of our defense out appropriations the services upon the State Department for throughout those years. He is cannot reach the peak of develallowing a seven-member Russian fully aware that we are sitting opment demanded by the various planners.

Second Difficult Task.

his famous opinions, he said that fense bill, which provides greater task. Intelligence now is concen-Johnson faces another difficult freedom of speech is really "free- power for the Secretary of De- trated largely in the hands of one fense, does not reach either the The State Department admitted Senate or House floors during this gence Agency. It is the eyes and government unit, Central Intelliears of our defense, and is far many Americans thought this was cient powers—if he wishes to use more important in peace than in

certain of the Iron Curtain And there is every indication he CIA, it has done fair work so far but is still in its infancy and the called a mistake on the theory The problems which confront results achieved hitherto have not whether he that all or none should have been Mr. Johnson are twofold: (1) the been fully satisfactory. The questug of war between the three tion before Mr. Johnson is whether Now it is announced that the services, and (2) intelligence and the CIA, set up by Congress at a system in the time when the risk of international system in the conflagration was still small, shall South. The inter-service tug-of-war continue its present work of colwas inevitable because of inde- lecting and analyzing informacisions in the Defense Depart- tion, or whether the collection side they promise to ment and the newness of the situ- of its activity should be placed in hold separate ation. Also the strategy of a fu- the hands of the Army, Navy, Air primaries and ture armed conflict has remained Force and State Department, rele- put candidates quite uncertain. The Army, for gating Central Intelligence to the into the field on instance, thinks in terms of a correlation and analysis of facts a national

strategy which will require the thus gathered. deployment of dozens of ground Moreover, Mr. Johnson will be ticket against The United States stands for divisions, particularly heavy compelled to pay more attention the States' freedom of speech and ought not armor. It stands by the slogan than his predecessor to internal Righters. to be afraid to listen to anybody's that the foot soldier—who travels security, which has become a top If Mr. Truman says no, they him. It is hard to locate the file. When that broke, I switched ideas, including those of crack- these days in mechanized units- problem at this time, when an will abandon the project and de- balance for the administration as to a chisel. When that gave way pots. For years a spirit of tol- is now, as in the past, the deter- ideological fifth column is work- part, leaving the States' Righters between the two. erance toward soapbox orators mining factor in winning final ing in this country with far unchallenged at home and in Both more or less favor the New oysters, I lost my temper and greater efficiency than was the Washington except as the Presi- Deal program of economic and started throwing them against the The Air Force, on the other case before World War II.

-another fear-has crept into the and naval forces are as antiquated know the new Secretary of Desituation. Hitler taught the world as archers and that any war with fense is that he will be able to President. If he decides to go a manner extremely irksome to After about half an hour of how to organize a "fifth column." a nation which has a vast reservoir cope effectively with these prob- along with his Southern support- the President.

and they would feel at home.

Could Look Around.

country and our happy and pros-

see some Russians, and see that

like ourselves. That might help us

to distinguish between the Russian

cycle across a wire way up at the

An afternoon at the circus would

U. S. Action Is Legal, But It Might Be

Well to Let Communists See Country

munists can get into this country small group of foreign Commu-

legally—as official visitors to a nists, only seven of whom are Rus-

Technically and legally the people and the rulers in the Krem-

not be allowed in our country on each other's backs and balance

until they dropped their Iron Cur- on poles as the gentlemen under-

tain for visitors from the United neath the whole pack rides a bi-

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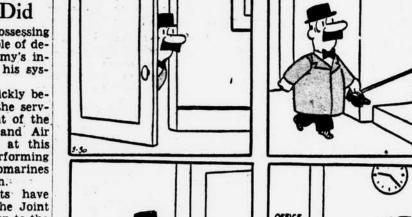
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the late Oliver Wendell Holmes of the weaknesses in our of the Supreme Court. In one of his famous onliners he said that Even if the new national de-Johnson faces another difficult Truman Facing Big Decision on

Whether to Fight States' Righters

By Doris Fleeson Carolina and Mississippi are here this week to put squerely up to Where do we go from here? this week to put squarely up to the President the question of

take a fight for If Mr. Tru-

cares to under-

man savs ves. Democratic

The decision was taken instead and therefore are a bit naive about o accept all the States' Righters, politics. They would, it is pre-tacit and avowed, into the Demosumed, have the local police cratic family and give them their watching them wherever they share of the rewards of victory, went, so we would be protected. just as if nothing had happened. The two with the greatest nui-If they said from the platform sance value - Representatives elsewhere what they said in their Rankin of Mississippi and Cox of New York meetings, we need have Georgia—were taken care of by no qualms that any of our people rules changes, a device that has would become tainted or indoc- just been proved in the pension trinated. And while they very fight to have its drawbacks. likely would get delegations of

The South Carolinians who have pickets wherever they went, that presented their case to National being an old American custom, it Chairman McGrath and Execuis probable that the folks out in tive Director Boyle are the rump the country, who are courteous

Truman Democrats from South by the administration. They are if I were to eat them.

They explain that a candidate can run in only one South Carolina primary so their party can't be stolen from them by the other

Main Fight for Senate.

dinner in 1948, will run again; can opener.

dent might decide to draw the is- social improvement, civil rights side of the house. Now, however, another element hand, is convinced that ground The consensus of those who sue against individual Dixiecrats. excepted. Both are internation-It is a large decision for the alists. And both have behaved in But the house did.

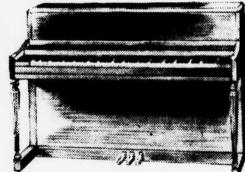
ers, the immediate effects would The administration has been as- the oysters, the house started be felt on the Hill, possibly in a sured that no difficulty will arise revival of the Southern-Repub- in a Truman South Carolina party lican coalition which has just about Negroes voting. About 30,knifed civil rights. And an affir- 000 Negroes are said to vote now mative answer could also set in in the State. They are, it is exmotion a chain of events which plained, "affiliated" with the Demwould force the Senate and House ocrats. The practical situation to isolate its Dixiecrats, depriving seems to be that the Negroes only unlike us, but it all seems an them of Democrat seniority and will not be encouraged by their



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-By Harry Hanan McLemore-

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By Henry McLemore

I have seen monuments to soldiers, patriots, musicians, poets, oysters by now, all grinning, or so it seemed to me. inventors, and leaders of the suffragette movement, but never have you on the half shell, which have I seen a is the way I like you best, but

There should be one, and if I ever get any money ahead I am going to see to it that the oyster opener is immortalized in bronze or some other enduring sub-

monument to

an oyster open-

stance. The oyster Henry McLemore. under honorable terms. opener is a hero. Daily he tackles for. For a second, the oyster emtask which places his life in issary turned his head and I let peril in order that less manly men him have it. Cleaved him wide may have their half dozen on the half shell, their half-and-half open. mates looked on, I treated his stews, and their Oysters Rockewounds with horse radish, ketch-It was not until yesterday that

I fully appreciated the men who open oysters, because it was not until yesterday that I was confronted with a bushel of the faction recognized last summer bivalves that I had to open myself They came air express, all dry-

iced, from Mobile, and a prettier batch of oysters you never saw. Like Cracking a Bank. Mouth watering, I said, "Let

me at 'em!' No clear-cut decision apparent- Two hours later, mouth still ly can be had with regard to a watering, not an oyster had been designation on the actual ballots. opened. I had, though. In many The State does not print ballots; places. My hands were cut, my the parties furnish them and are wrists were lacerated, my elbows free to adopt whatever desig- had endured more punishment

than Sergt. York ever had. Say, did any of you ever try The principal South Carolina to open an oyster? It is somefight will be for the Senate thing like cracking the Chase Senator Johnston, who snubbed National Bank's main vault at the President at the Jackson Day high noon, using nothing but a

Gov. Thurmond hopes to beat I started off with a big, heavy

being on the receiving end of

TROUSERS EISEMAN'S - F at 7th and I saw that I had to make up dash of lemon.

The yard was cluttered with

you can bet any oyster boots you

have that I am going to have

Whereupon I went down to the

tool shed, selected an ax of a

weight that Lincoln would have

had a time lifting it, and went

Bang! Crash! Whack! Some

An hour later the oysters chose

They wished to capitulate, but

And, while his battered

an emissary and sent him to me

under a flag of truce.

back to face my Mobile foes.

more whacks.

whining. Then it started sagging, up, a touch of Tabasco and my mind. Would I have oysters Then I ate him. to eat or a house to live in?

THE EVENING STAR, Washington, D. C. **A-11

I got one oyster out of the All Seem to Be Grinning.

bushel. I would have liked to have had two, but that would have meant another day out of my life, and I couldn't spare the time. "Well," I told them, "I won't (Distributed by McNaught Syndicate, Inc.)

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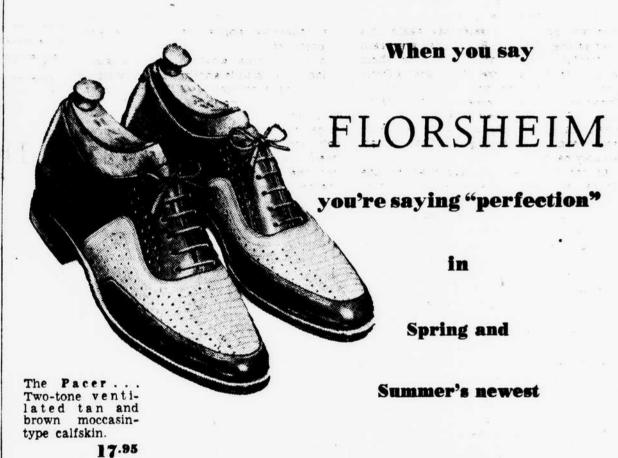
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